

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

R. WOODRUFF

For: **A METHOD OF DISTRIBUTED  
RESOURCES MANAGEMENT OF I/O  
DEVICES IN A NETWORK CLUSTER**

Examiner: G. Neurauter

Art Unit: 2143

Continuation of Application:  
Application No.: 09/322,183  
Filing Date: May 28, 1999

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Preliminary Amendment for Continuation Application**

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment for the present patent application.

**In the Specification:**

After the title, please insert the following:

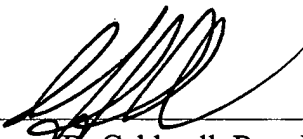
--The present patent application is a Continuation of Application No. 09/322,183, filed May 28, 1999.--

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: February 24, 2004

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